

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 20-27 are pending. Claims 1-6, 11 and 12 are rejected. Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that Claims 20-27 are allowable over the prior art of record and that Claims 7-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully request that Claim 7 be canceled without prejudice. Applicants believe that the amendments to the patent application herein do not add new matter to it.

Information Disclosure Statement

The current Office Action alleges that: "The information disclosure statement filed 11/18/2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)". Applicants intend to subsequently submit a copy of the cited portions of the S. Keshav reference recited within the information disclosure statement that was mailed on November 12, 2002.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because of informalities. Specifically, the current Office Action alleges that many of the figures contain elements in handwritten form. Applicants respectfully submit that formal drawings for the patent application are submitted concurrently herewith and, as such, render this objection moot.

Claims Objections

Claims 2, 3, 8-10 and 25 are objected to because of informalities.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2, 3, 8-10 and 25 as herein amended render these objections moot.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 1-6, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Basso et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,690,678.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1 has been amended herein to substantially include the subject matter of objected to dependent Claim 7. As such, Applicants have herein canceled Claim 7 without prejudice. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record and as such, its dependent Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are also allowable over the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 20-27 are in condition for allowance and that action is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP

Dated: OCT. 24, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas M. Catale', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas M. Catale
Registration No.: 46,434

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP
Two North Market St., Third Floor
San Jose, California 95113

(408) 938-9060
Facsimile: (408) 938-9069